

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Ronald A. Schmaltz

Title: **VALVE FOR CONTROLLING FLUID FLOW THROUGH A TUBE, AND RELATED SYSTEMS AND METHODS**

Serial No.: TBD

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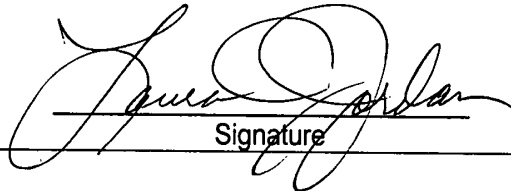
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Signature

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

23 March 2004

TO THE COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS:

Applicant amends the claims and specification before the examination of the present application.

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2.

Amendments to the Claims begin on page 3.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 5.